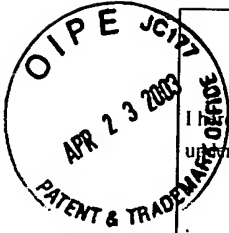


PATENT
Docket No. 199372003600



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Marco A. Jimenez

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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GROUP 1700

In the application of:

Takayuki TOSHIMA et al.

Serial No.: 10/036,787

Filing Date: October 19, 2001

For: METHOD AND APPARATUS OF
PROCESSING SURFACE OF
SUBSTRATE

Examiner: Roberts P. Culbert

Group Art Unit: 1763

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.121

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

This is in response to the Office Action dated October 23, 2002, for which a response was due on January 23, 2003, and for which a three-month extension of time is also requested to extend the time for response from January 23, 2003, to April 23, 2003.

Please amend the application as follows: